

SERC Meeting
April 21, 2003
10:00 a.m.

Steve Kappa began the meeting at 10:02 am, a quorum was present, for those in attendance see attached roster. The minutes of February 24, 2003 were reviewed. Mr. Kappa asked for corrections, deletions or additions. *Rudy Raynes moved to approve the minutes as presented. Joe Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.* Matt Musgrave has abstained from voting until the Governor's Office determines his eligibility to remain on the SERC Board. Mr. Musgrave has taken a position with DHHR.

Old Business:

DOJ Grants -Neal Sharp reported on the progress of the Regional Response Teams and introduced a slide presentation outlining activities accomplished to-date. Those activities included identifying hazmat capability, identifying available resources and identifying trained personnel were some of the areas reviewed. Because of this process we designated Regions encompassing all 55 counties, determined accreditation procedures and testing, prioritized equipment requests, developed SOG (Standard Operating Guides) and coordinated with the state purchasing division to facilitate purchase of equipment. More than 150 team members have been trained at Anniston AL, Nevada and New Mexico. Table top and functional exercises will be conducted regularly in the regions, the first exercise was conducted April 14 & 15 and had 70 participants. Also approximately 30 personnel are preparing to go through the accreditation process which potentially will increase response team members in the Regions. Neal Sharp and Rudy Raynes will be meeting with the Attorney General to discuss a mechanism to reimburse fire departments and personnel who participate on the regional response teams when deployed. Neal Sharp noted 80% of funds must be allocated to the local level, leaving 20% to be divided between Protective Services, Fire Marshal, State Police and Emergency Services. The 03 grant allocation is 6.34 million dollars and will be divided into Equipment (4.5 million), Exercise (1 million), Training (334,000), and Planning/administration (445,000). The goal is to have the capability to respond to an incident within 1 hour anywhere in the state. In the 03 grant year more emphasis will be placed on EMS and Law Enforcement training and equipment purchases. Some of the purchases will include pharmaceuticals (for treatment of victims and team members) scene security, evidence collection, river patrol, swat support equipment and detection equipment. The detection equipment will give us the capability to process and analyze substances. We're also going to support two technical urban SAR (Search and Rescue) teams, the closest team which can be deployed to West Virginia is in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Neal Sharp, Mark King, Dr. Ramsey and Jerry Rhodes met and discussed EMS units responding with RRT members providing teams additional expertise during an incident. Neal Sharp and Steve Rogers continue to examine new products and equipment to enhance RRT member response capability, they were recently in North Carolina inspecting new equipment. Region 1 will be holding their kickoff in June, probably in Huntington.

Other Old Business -

HMEP Grants -Mr. Kappa noted the SERC Board must vote to allow him to represent the SERC in administering the 2003 HMEP Grant from US DOT. *Joe Wyatt moved to allow Mr. Kappa to administer the 2003 HMEP Grant, Mr. Jarvis seconded. Motion passed.* Laverne reported Ohio and Raleigh counties have completed their 2002 projects and the remaining counties appear to be moving forward to complete their projects. Review of Raleigh and Ohio's projects are available upon request. The SERC portion of the HMEP Grant for 2003 will be \$35,143 and US DOT \$140,570 for a total of \$175,713.

SERC Grants- Laverne reported 11 LEPCs have received their 2002 SERC Grants thus far, Hancock/Brooke, Kanawha/Putnam, Logan, Marion, Marshall/Wetzel, Monongalia, Ohio, Pendleton, Cabell/Wayne, Roane and Ritchie for a total of \$25,086.77

Plan Reviews - Leonard Ward reported Pendleton County has 6 of 13 musts and Preston has 4 of 13 musts. Leonard will be assisting the counties to bring them up to standard.

LEPC Membership Approvals -Braxton and Gilmer were reviewed. *Rudy Raynes made a motion to accept Braxton and Gilmer County LEPC membership lists, Joe Wyatt seconded. Motion passed.*

By-Laws - Mercer, Kanawha/Putnam and Hampshire LEPC have submitted By-Laws for approval. Braxton and Barbour LEPC's have been tabled until they submit additional information. *Mr. Jarvis moved to accept Mercer, Kanawha/Putnam and Hampshire LEPC By-Laws, Jim Riggs seconded. Motion approved.*

Training Subcommittee -Jim Cox is not available today and will have no report.

SERC Conference -The SERC Conference is scheduled August 11, 12 & 13th at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Charleston. Laverne noted a list of courses and speakers are in the handouts, if anyone has suggestions or classes you'd like to see at the conference please let Laverne know.

Approximately 1400 brochures have been mailed to Law Enforcement, Fire Departments, Emergency Service Directors, LEPCs and members, Mayors and County Commissions. If you have additional individuals you'd like invited please contact Laverne.

Other New Business - Bill Willis (Wayne County) told Mr. Kappa some of the Tier II data he receives still contains Mr. Pack's name. Mr. Kappa stated he continues to receive mail for Mr. Bradford and Mr. Pack, evidently some facilities do not update their information.

Mr. Richard Jarvis was presented with a plaque for outstanding service and dedication to the WV SERC. Mr. Jarvis has retired and resigned his position with the Board effective 4/21/03. Mr. Jarvis has served 9 years on the SERC Board and has helped to direct the board's agenda and facilitate LEPC activity. Mr. Jarvis commented he would miss the group and felt good about the direction the board is going. The minimum standards set have gone a long way in giving direction and encouragement to LEPC and their activities.

Mr. Kappa updated the Board on the ongoing efforts from the February snow storm and subsequent flooding. 49 counties are eligible for federal assistance and at one time all 55 counties were under a state of emergency. 2600 individuals have registered for assistance at this time but the majority of damage was to infrastructure rather than individuals. The snow storm also created numerous difficulties and has been declared a disaster. 135,000 people were without power at one time, 2 ½-3 inches of ice downed power lines and 20 counties were declared a snow disaster with over 20 million dollars in storm damage. USDA has also granted a disaster declaration for area farmers due to the amount of damage sustained in the agricultural community. Mr. Kappa said he appreciated all the hard work and dedication of Emergency Service directors in the affected counties.

Joe Wyatt moved to adjourn, Rudy Raynes seconded, Motion passed. Meeting ended at 11:40 am. The next scheduled meeting will be June 23, 2003 at 10:00 am at the EOC in Charleston, WV.

THE SERC MEETING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO JUNE 27, 2003 AT 10:00 AM